GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4075
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2016
Skewed Sex Ratio
Kamal Nath Shri ;Kher Smt. Kirron;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a drop in the child sex ratio as per the latest census report, if so the details thereof;

(b) whether the reasons for the adverse child sex ratio has been studied and reported, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the observed decline in sex ratio;

(c) whether the Union Government is aware about the skewed sex ratio in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(d) if so, whether most of clinics in Madhya Pradesh are using portable ultrasound machines to illegally conduct foetal sex determination tests resulting in skewed sex ratio in several districts of
Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) whether the Government"s decision on ban on sex determination tests across the country have been widely and openly violated by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, if so, further action the Government proposes to take in this regard?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a): Yes. As per the Census, 2011, the child sex ratio has shown decline from 927 females per thousand males in 2001 to 918 females per thousand males in 2011. The State/UT-wise details are at annexure.
(b): There are no studies conducted by Government on reasons for adverse child sex ratio. However, the reasons cited for observed decline in sex ratio are - son preference and the belief that it is only the son who can perform the last rites, that lineage and inheritance runs through the male line, sons will look after parents in old age, men are the bread winners etc. Exorbitant dowry demand is another reason for female foeticide/infanticide. Small family norm coupled with easy availability of sex determination tests may be a catalyst in the declining child sex ratio, further facilitated by easy availability of Pre-conception sex selection facilities.
Contdâ€¦â€¦

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(c): Sir, as per Census 2011, the sex ratio in the State of Madhya Pradesh has shown growth from 919 females per thousand males in 2001 to 931 females per thousand males in 2011.

(d) & (e): As per information received from State of Madhya Pradesh, no portable ultrasound machines are being illegally used to conduct foetal sex determination tests resulting in skewed child sex ratio in several districts of Madhya Pradesh. There are no cases of wide and open violation of ban on sex determination tests, as reported by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.
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